

elusion may seem preposterous to educated minds. But by an effort of introspection we may conceive its possibility and may understand how our ancestors thought that they were haunted by apparitions which were not phantasmal but realities. It is only in this idea that an origin can be found for the extraordinary fancies of magic and witchcraft—relics of our own history that have been preserved by barbarous tribes.

Human society probably originated in small troops which lived in constant dread of the dangerous beasts that were so numerous even in Europe at the commencement of the quaternary epoch. The first cause of success was obedience to their chief who was represented not only by the living head of the troop, but by the visioned spirits of departed ancestors. To reverence the unity and the headship of the little group may have been the earliest beginning of religion : we can find traces of this observance everywhere. It is still the most popular cult of China : it is a living force in India ; it swayed the ideas and the habits of the Greeks and Romans. and in modern Europe is acknowledged by the crowds which flock to the cemeteries on All Souls' Day.

In man's adventures with the brutes an observed cause of success was the use of weapons : a visioned cause was to capture or kill the spirits

of the beasts  
in a mimic hunt. Man made himself  
flint arrows  
and axes and drew pictures which  
would keep  
before him the visions of his dreams. So.  
in domes-  
ticated animals. practical skill in  
taming might be  
assisted by visionary influences : man  
added their  
images to his collection of idols. The  
cow appealed  
to his admiration with particular  
impressiveness :  
she typified the success that made  
men rich and